

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ISLAMA 02865 251229Z
ACTION SNM-02

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 AGRE-00 IGA-02 AID-05
MED-03 DODE-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 JUSE-00
NSAE-00 TRSE-00 USIA-15 NSC-05 OES-06 OMB-01
HEW-06 L-03 H-02 /081 W
-----260136Z 100786 /20

R 251120Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 532
INFO AMCONSUL KARACHI
USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS ISLAMABAD 2865

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SNAR, PK,
SUBJ: DECRIMINALIZATION OF MARIHUANA
REF: STATE 57902

1. UNDER PAKISTAN LAW, USE, TRANSPORTATION, CULTIVATION
MANUFACTURING AND TRAFFICKING OF CANNABIS AND CANNABIS
DERIVATIVES IS PUNISHABLE BY FINE OF RUPEES 2,000 (DOLS200)
AND/OR TWO YEARS OF RIGOROUS IMPRISONMENT. THE ABOVE
PENALTIES ARE FOUND IN THE DANGEROUS DRUGS ACT OF 1930
WHICH WAS AMENDED IN 1975 TO INCLUDE CANNABIS. THERE ARE
ALSO PROVINCIAL LAWS IN EACH OF THE FOUR PROVINCES WITH
PENALTIES THE SAME AS THE FEDERAL ACT, WITH THE EXCEPTION
OF THE PROVINCE OF SIND. IN THE LATTER, THE PENALTY IS
RUPEES 4,000 AND/OR SEVEN YEARS IMPRISONMENT. IN THE
SIND, THIS OFFENSE IS NOT BAILABLE.

2. WITHIN PAKISTAN LAW, THERE IS NO DIFFERENTIATION
BETWEEN USERS AND TRAFFICKERS. HOWEVER, IN ACTUAL
PRACTICE ENFORCEMENT AND PUNISHMENT IS LENIENT AND PRACTICALLY
NIL WITH REGARD TO USERS. OFFENDERS WHEN ARRESTED ARE OFTEN ABLE
TO DELAY CASES FOR MONTHS OR YEARS AND MANY NEVER COME
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TO TRIAL. FOREIGN OFFENDERS ARE USUALLY ASSESSED THE DOLS200
FINE AND ASKED TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY. THE FEW DOMESTIC
OFFENDERS ACTUALLY BROUGHT TO TRIAL ARE USUALLY FINED AND
RELEASED WITHIN A MATTER OF WEEKS. THE MAXIMUM RECENT
SENTENCE ACTUALLY SERVED, TO OUR KNOWLEDGE, WAS TWO AND
ONE-HALF YEARS FOR A MAJOR TRAFFICKER.

3. PAKISTAN HAS PREPARED A NEW COMPREHENSIVE NARCOTICS LAW WHICH MAY BE ADOPTED BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY WITHIN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS. THIS LAW CONTAINS UNIFORM PENALTIES FOR ALL DRUG OFFENSES. FIRST OFFENSE IS PUNISHABLE WITH PRISON TERM UP TO TEN YEARS. SECOND OFFENDERS RECEIVE A MINIMUM OF SEVEN YEARS TO A MAXIMUM OF FOURTEEN YEARS. IMPRISONMENT.
BYROADE

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Message Attributes

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